

computer, through a telephone connection to the external computer.

32. (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the providing the wager account information to the external computer and the receiving wager information from the external computer further comprises providing the wager account information to the external computer and receiving the wager information from the external computer, through a wireless connection to the external computer.

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 were pending in the above-identified patent application. The Examiner rejected claims 1-13, 15-29, and 31-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Brenner et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,830,068 (hereinafter "Brenner"). The Examiner also rejected claims 14 and 30 as being unpatentable over Brenner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Applicants have cancelled claims 10, 13, 14, 26, 29, and 30 without prejudice, and amended claims 1, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 27, 28, 31, and 32 in order to more particularly define the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that this application, as amended, is allowable over the references of record.

Applicants' independent claims 1 and 17, as amended, are directed to interactive wagering systems and

methods that enable users to access wagering account information using different types of user interfaces. User interfaces may be provided at set-top boxes, telephones, and computers. (See, e.g., applicants' specification at page 19, lines 21-23.) For example, when provided at a set-top box or a computer, a user interface may be presented as a graphical user interface as illustrated in FIGS. 6-126 of the application. As another example, when provided at a telephone, a user interface may be presented as an interactive voice response user interface as illustrated in FIGS. 127-151 of the application.

Claims 1 and 17 have been amended to emphasize this aspect of applicants' invention. Specifically, claim 1 now requires that:

at least one of the plurality of types of user interface systems is an interactive voice response control system that receives a telephone call from an external source, that provides, to the external source through the telephone call, voice prompts that correspond to the wager account information, and that receives wager information from the external source through the telephone call

and that:

at least another of the plurality of types of user interface systems is a computer wagering control system that provides the wager account information to an external computer and that receives wager information from the external computer through the Internet.

(See analogous limitations of claim 17.)

Brenner does not show using both an interactive voice response telephone system and an Internet system as required by the independent claims as amended.

According, applicants submit that claims 1 and 17, and claims 2-9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18-25, 27, 28, 31, and 32 which depend therefrom, are allowable over Brenner. In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that these claims are in condition for allowance, and that this application is therefore in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX
MARK-UPS OF AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A system for interactive wagering, comprising:

a database that stores data relating to wagering account information; and

a plurality of types of user interface systems that receive the wager account information stored in the database, that receive wager information from users, and that provide the wager account information received to the users, wherein at least one of the plurality of types of user interface systems is an interactive voice response control system that receives a telephone call from an external source, that provides, to the external source through the telephone call, voice prompts that correspond to the wager account information, and that receives wager information from the external source through the telephone call, and wherein at least another of the plurality of types of user interface systems is a computer wagering control system that provides the wager account information to an external computer and that receives wager information from the external computer through the Internet.

11. (Amended) The system of claim [10] 1, wherein the interactive voice response control system receives the wager information as signals generated in response to one or more telephone key depressions.

12. (Amended) The system of claim [10] 1, wherein the interactive voice response control system receives the wager information as verbal commands that are spoken by a caller.

15. (Amended) The system of claim [13] 1, wherein the computer wagering control system provides the wager account information to the external computer and

receives the wager information from the external computer, through a telephone connection to the external computer.

16. (Amended) The system of claim [13] 1, wherein the computer wagering control system provides the wager account information to the external computer and receives the wager information from the external, computer through a wireless connection to the external computer.

17. (Amended) A method for interactive wagering, comprising:

storing data relating to wager account information; and

receiving wager information from users and providing the wager account information to users, both using a plurality of types of user interface systems, further comprising receiving a telephone call from an external source, providing, to the external source through the telephone call, voice prompts that correspond to the wager account information, and receiving wager information from the external source through the telephone call, and further comprising providing the wager account information to an external computer and receiving wager information from the external computer through the Internet.

27. (Amended) The method of claim [26] 17, wherein the receiving the telephone call from the external source, the providing, to the external source through the telephone call, voice prompts that correspond to the wager account information, and the receiving wager information from the external source through the telephone call further comprises receiving the wager information as signals generated in response to one or more telephone key depressions.

28. (Amended) The method of claim [26] 17, wherein the receiving the telephone call from the external source, the providing, to the external source through the telephone call, voice prompts that correspond to the wager account information, and the receiving wager information from the external source through the telephone call further comprises receiving the wager information as verbal commands that are spoken by a caller.

31. (Amended) The method of claim [29] 17, wherein the providing the wager account information to the external computer and the receiving wager information from the external computer further comprises providing the wager account information to the external computer and receiving the wager information from the external computer, through a telephone connection to the external computer.

32. (Amended) The method of claim [29] 17, wherein the providing the wager account information to the external computer and the receiving wager information from the external computer further comprises providing the wager account information to the external computer and receiving the wager information from the external computer, through a wireless connection to the external computer.